



Harvard College &



Boston Latin School

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Origins/Facts

HARVARD

- Founded by John Harvard
- In 1636, the “Great and General Court of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England” approved a donation of **£400** to establish Harvard as the first scholarly college in the American colonies
- The college was named “Harvard” when John Harvard willed his library (of 400+ books), half of his estate, and about **£779**
- The college was founded in anticipation of the need for a way to train the clergy for the commonwealth

BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL

- Founded by the town of Boston in 1635.
- Establishment of the school was heavily influenced by Reverend John Cotton, who created it to copy a Latin school in England.
- Curriculum was centered around humanities, specifically Greek ideals.
- First classes were held in Philemon Pormort’s home, who was the master of the school.
- Five signers of the Declaration of Independence attended the school (Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Robert Treat Paine, and William Hooper; Ben Franklin was a dropout).

What Each Says About Life In Early English Colonies

HARVARD

- **Religion:**
 - ◆ Harvard's early motto, "*Veritas Christo et Ecclesiae*", translated to "Truth for Christ and the Church", shows the importance of religion at the time. About half of Harvard's early graduates became ministers.
- **Politics/ Economics:**
 - ◆ Harvard had a slow start to begin with, and generally only boys with wealthy parents were able to attend, however nothing suggests that acceptance was restrictive to this group only. As some life advantages (ie: schools, apprenticeships) were solely available to boys with influential or important fathers, Harvard was much more open. This leveled the playing field, and allowed men from lower-class families to rise up in social class.
- **Society:**
 - ◆ As Harvard was an all-male school, a male-centric society can be predicted.

BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL

- **Religion/ Politics:**
 - ◆ Latin schools were designed to help some people prepare to be Church officials or political leaders, showing they valued education for their leaders. For a little bit, admission to the school was decided by reading verses from the Bible.
- **Economics:**
 - ◆ Boys from various socioeconomic backgrounds attended, meaning that they wanted everyone, despite their class, to attend.
- **Society:**
 - ◆ It was an all-male school, so that shows how there was gender-equality as they did not see women fit to be educated or lead them. It was also created to be like a Latin school in England, showing they wanted to bring the culture to the New World



The End

